

# Drinking Behavior, Illness, and the Air Force ADAPT Program

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ADAPT Program Manager

# Wing Goal: Create a responsible alcohol culture that promotes healthy, low-risk drinking behavior

- •50% reduction in DUI over each of the next two years
- •Reduce high-risk drinking & associated problem behaviors

•Increase awareness and prevalence of low-risk vs. high-risk

### FE Warren Strategy

- Based on national research:
  - National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, "A Call to Action: Changing the Culture of Drinking at US Colleges", 2002
  - National Academy of Sciences, "Reducing Underage Drinking: A Collective Responsibility", 2003
- Three-pronged, integrated approach:
  - Individuals at High Risk
  - Base Population
  - Base and Surrounding Community

#### **Key Points**

- Drinking Behavior-A Matter of Degree
- Substance Use Patterns
- Early Identification of Problems
- Mandatory Evaluation and Treatment
- How to Use the ADAPT program

Why Young People Drink:

- Many reasons:
  - Fun
  - Curiosity, "Rite of passage"
  - Peers, "The thing to do..."
- Psychological Purposes:
  - To increase positive feelings
  - To decrease negative feelings



## Levels of Drinking Behavior:

• No Risk Matter of Degre

Low Risk Drinking

- Problem Drinking
  - Illegal/Underage
  - Alcohol Related Incidents (ARI)
  - Binge Drinking
- Alcohol Abuse
- Alcohol Dependence

NO RISK

**LOW RISK** 

MODERTATE RISK

HIGH RISK & ILLNESS

#### Binge Drinking Defined

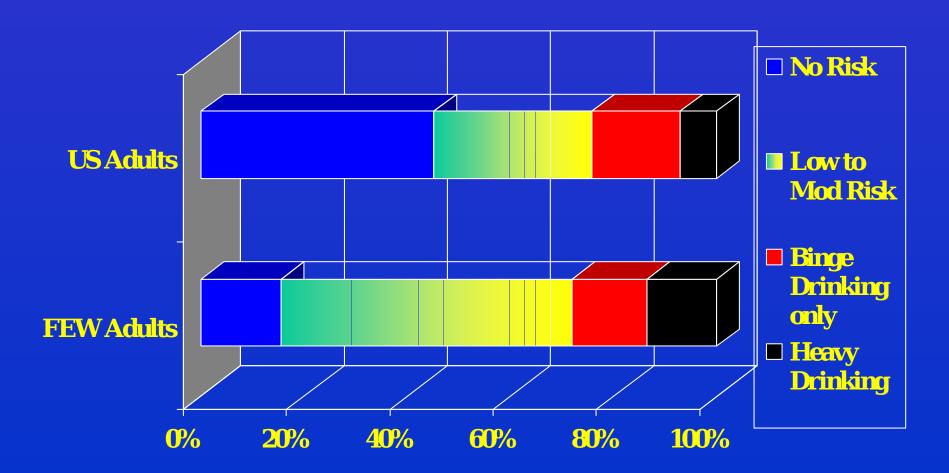
- "Binge drinking":
  - Men = 5 or more drinks in a row
  - <u>- Women</u> = 4 or more drinks in a row
  - "Drink" = 12 oz beer / 5 oz wine / 1.5 oz liquor
- Underage drinkers far more likely to binge drink than older drinkers

#### Binge Drinking

Binge drinkers are up to 10 times more likely to be involved in:

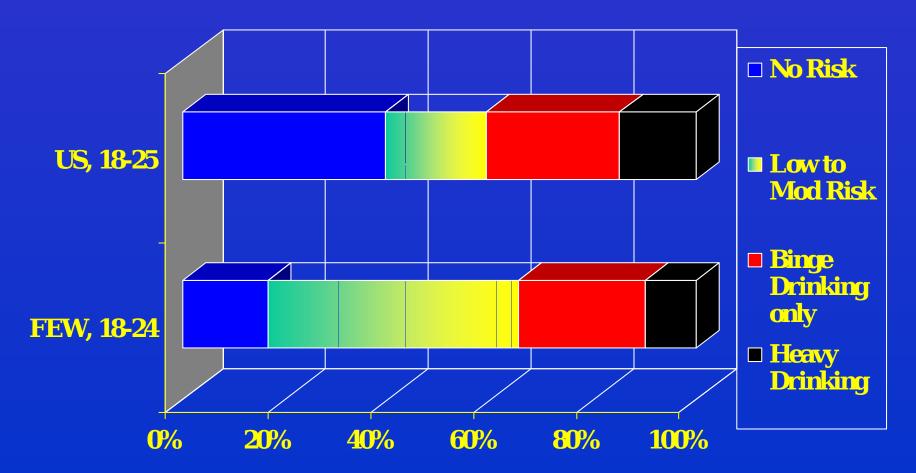
- >Physical or sexual assault
- > Serious accidental injury
- ► Get into trouble with police
- Dangerous/intoxicated driving
- ►Unprotected & unplanned sex
- ► Damage property

### Drinking: US and FE Warren



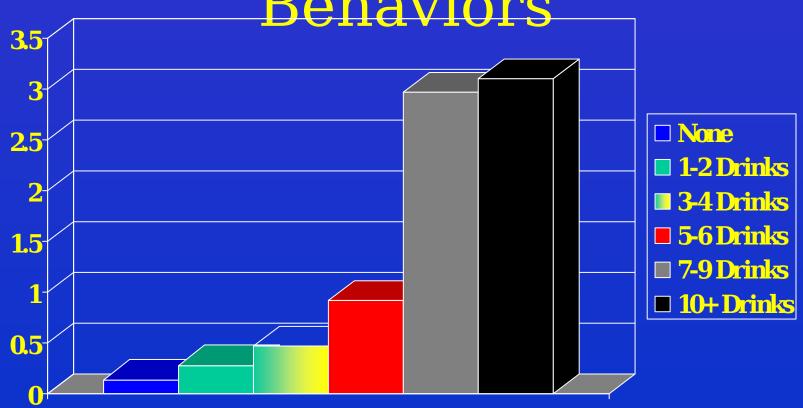
US Data based on interview of 68,000; SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, "National Survey on Drug Use and Health", 2002.

## Drinking: US and FE Warren, College Age



US Data based on interview of 68,000; SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, "National Survey on Drug Use and Health". 2002.

# FE Warren Data: Drinking and High Risk Behaviors



Average number of self-reported High Risk Behaviors: DUI/riding with drunk driver, argue/fight with spouse, physical fight, thinking about suicide, unprotected sex, unwanted or forced sex, late or missed work due to drinking, or using other drugs within the last work. Data from survey of 414 FEW active duty members, 2004.

### RESPONSIBLE DRINKING

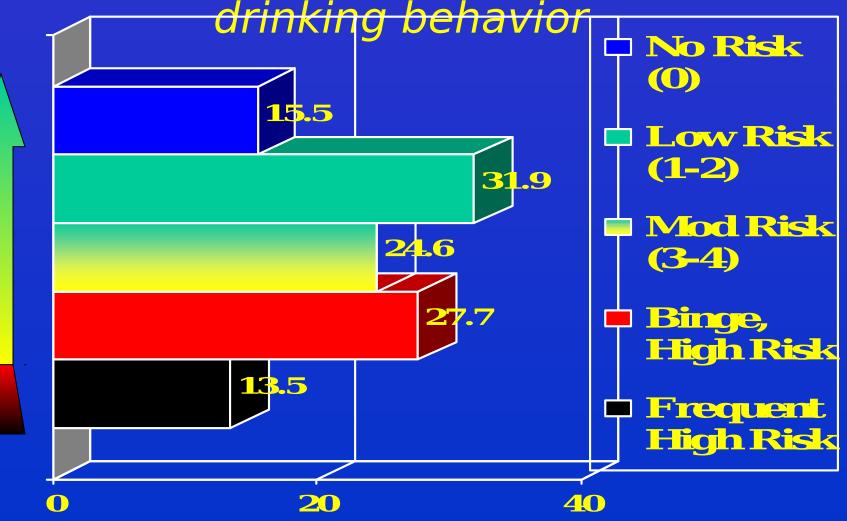


### Frustration & Ambivalence

- It's just the age.
- You can't stop them.
- College kids drink...
- I did it at that age...
- "I am a member of the United States Air Force serving in the defense of my country and I can't have a drink?!!"



Operationalizing the Wing Goal: Create a responsible alcohol culture that promotes healthy, low-risk



FE Warren Data based on anonymous written survey of 414 active duty members, 2004.

## Three-Pronged Approach: Individuals at High Risk

- Persons at moderate or high risk for problem drinking or substance use disorder
- Enter AF with established alcohol use disorders
- Genetics and/or Environment
- Poor coping skills or judgment

LOW RISK

MODERTAT E RISK

HIGH RISK & ILLNESS

### Identifying Persons at High Risk

- Self-Identification
- Behavior
- Universal Screening
  - Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT)
  - Administered to all incoming personnel (FTAC, Rightstart)
  - CC notified of scores 8 or higher, with recommendation for referral to ADAPT evaluation

#### SAMPLE AUDIT

#### **ITEMS**

- 1. How often do you have a drink containing alcohol?
  - 0 Never or less
  - 1 Monthly
  - 2 2 to 4 times per month
  - 3 2 to 3 times per week
  - 4 4 or more times per week
- 4. How often during the last year have you found that you were not able to stop drinking once you had started?
  - 0 Never
  - 1 Less than monthly
  - 2 Monthly
  - 3 Weekly
  - 4 Daily or almost daily
- 8. How often during the last year have you been unable to remember what happened the night before because you had been drinking?
  - 0 Never
  - 1 Less than monthly
  - 2 Monthly
  - 3 Weekly
  - 4 Daily or almost daily

### Mandatory Evaluation and Treatment

- AFI 44-121 Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment (ADAPT) Program
- ADAPT is part of the 90<sup>th</sup> Medical Group, Life Skills Support Center
  - Program Manager: Captain Alan Ogle
  - NCOIC: MSgt Jeffrey Randall, CADA
  - <del>- 773-299</del>8

### ADAPT Primary Objectives:

- Promote readiness, health and wellness through prevention and treatment of substance abuse
- **Provide education and treatment** for individuals with substance abuse problems
- Return patients to unrestricted duty
   status or assist them in transition to civilian life

#### How to Use ADAPT: Referrals for Evaluation

Self-Referral

Medical referral

Commander Referral



#### Commander Referral:

- AFI 44-121 3.8.1 "A Unit commander shall refer all service members for assessment when substance use is suspected to be a contributing factor in any incident, e.g.:
  - DUI, public intoxication, drunk and disorderly, spouse/child abuse and maltreatment, underaged drinking, positive drug test, or when notified by medical personnel."
- Refer within 7 days of incident, ASAP for DUI

#### Command Referral

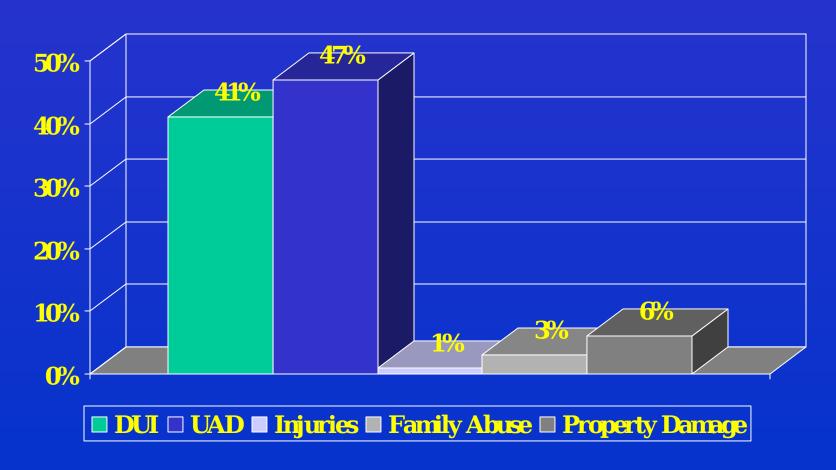
• Unit commander (or designee) completes ADAPT Referral Form which provides important information about the member and the incident

• Commander informs the member of the purpose of the appointment, that it is nonpunitive, and that they are to report in uniform for a substance abuse evaluation

#### **Evaluation Process:**

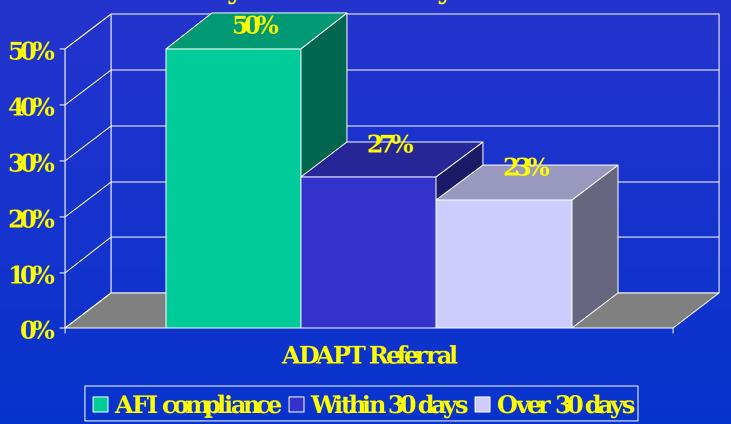
- ADAPT will provide an appointment within 7 days (or as soon as possible)
- Patient receives a substance use evaluation
  - American Society of Addiction Medicine criteria
  - "Motivational Interviewing" combined with the AF Substance Use Assessment Tool (SUAT)
  - Based on the information provided by the patient and unit, patient is directed to education or treatment
- Following the evaluation, the commander/first sergeant will be briefed on the outcome

### Top Reasons for ADAPT Referral in 2003



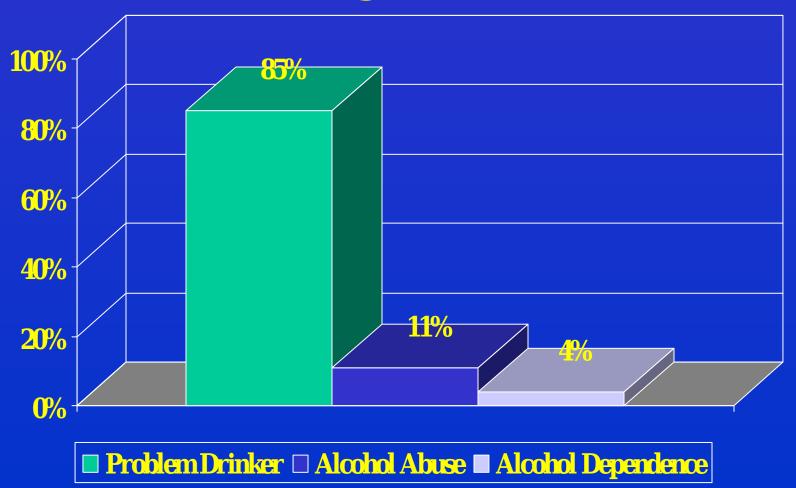
### 2003 Commander Referral Performance

Mandatory within 7 days of incident



Total 103 ADAPT referrals in 2003.

## 2003 Evaluation Results: Diagnosis



### **ADAPT Services: Evaluation and Education of Problem**

- All referrals renewers
  - Initial diagnostic evaluations
  - 6-hour Substance Abuse Awareness Seminar
    - Didactics and interactive group discussion

#### **SAAS Topics**

- Air Force and civilian standards regarding to substance use
- Individual responsibilities relating to substance use
- substance abuse
  - Air Force and civilian legal/administrative consequences
  - Facts and statistics about alcohol
  - Physical and psychological effects of abuse
  - Potential impact on self, others, and the community

- -Hazards of binge drinking
- -Group / Family Dynamics of
- -DUI/DWI education
- -Drug abuse education
- -Values clarification
  - -Healthy stress

#### Substance Use Disorders:

- 305.00 Alcohol Abuse (31% college students)
  - Recurrent, significant adverse consequences related to repeated alcohol use
  - Not addicted to alcohol
- 303.90 Alcohol Dependence (15% general population, lifetime rate)
  - Clinically significant impairment
  - Continued use despite serious negative consequence
  - Tolerance
  - With or Without Physiological Dependence

#### **ADAPT Services:**

- Diagnosed AD members receive:
  - Individualized Treatment
  - If medically indicated, referral for off-base care
    - AA / NA meetings in the community
    - Intensive Outpatient Program (3-4 hours/day, 4 days/ week)
    - Inpatient hospitalization for detox (3-7 days)
    - Inpatient/Residential program (4-6 weeks)
  - Referral for spiritual counseling as desired
  - Transitional Counseling

### ADAPT Services: Treatment

#### **AFI requires:**

- Complete abstinence from alcohol (duration set by TT)
- A medical profile (S4T-not worldwide qualified)
- Treatment Team Meetings-initial and quarterly
  - Patient
  - Commander
  - First Sergeant
  - Supervisor
  - Counselor
  - ADAPT Program Manager
  - Flight Surgeon (Missileers only)
  - Others invited (spouse/close friend/relative)

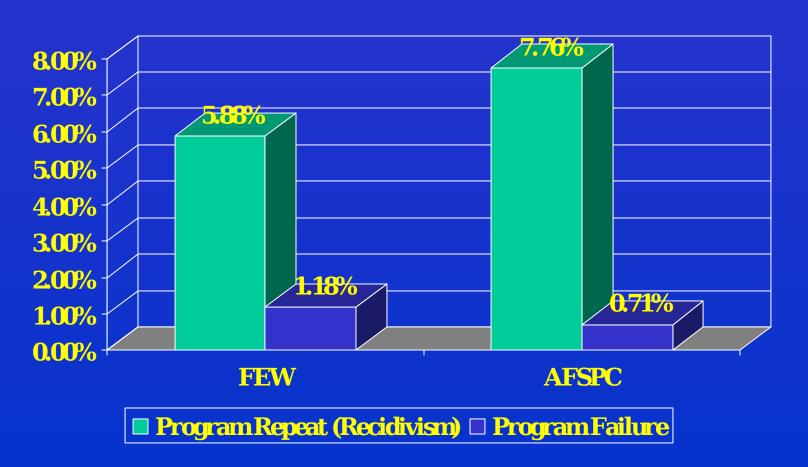
#### **Program Completion:**

- **Successful completion** of the ADAPT treatment program is based on:
  - meeting diagnostic criteria for "early full remission"
  - progress toward other treatment goals
  - and no longer requiring ADAPT program services for healthy living within AF standards.
- Realistic time frames for treatment range from 4 to 24 months depending upon severity, motivation, and progress

#### Program Failure:

- "Program failure" is determined by a pattern of
  - unacceptable behavior/unwillingness to live within AF standards regarding alcohol
  - inability or unwillingness to comply with the treatment plan
  - involvement in alcohol and/or drug related incidents after receiving initial treatment.
- Military members who fail the ADAPT program will be recommended for separation from AF

### 2003 ADAPT Program Outcomes



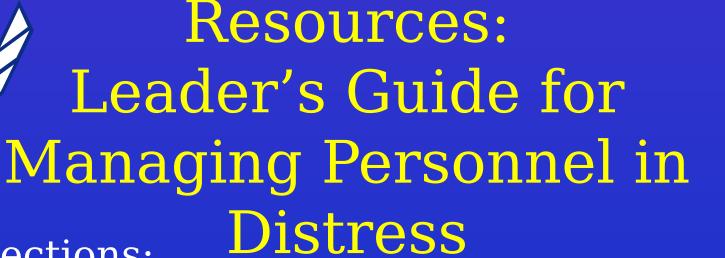
### Personnel Reliability

Program:
• If there is no diagnosis and no other PDI (e.g. stress, concentration, other problems) a member is returned to PRP duties—SAAS

 Patients diagnosed abuse or dependence will be recommended for temporary or permanent decertification

attendance still required

Please note: Since PRP
recommendations are often based on
making a diagnosis, it is best to refer
people for their FIRST incident



- Sections:
  - Topics in Distress
  - Specific Life Challenges and Resilience
  - Interventions and Community Resources
  - Deployment and Other Special Topics
  - Information for Unit Members
  - Leadership in Action-Strategies for Disease Prevention and Management



#### **CONCLUSION**

